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 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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## INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. 

CD NO.

COUNTRY Ecuador

DATE DISTR. 12 February 1952

SUBJECT Congress of Federacion Provincial  
de Trabajadores del Guayas (FPTG)

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1. Approximately eighty representatives of the various syndicates in Guayas Province, Ecuador, attended a convention held in Guayaquil on 8 and 9 December 1951 by the Federacion Provincial de Trabajadores del Guayas (FPTG), Communist-dominated affiliate of the Confederacion de Trabajadores del Ecuador (CTE).
2. The main topic of discussion at the meeting of 8 December consisted of ways and means to overcome the strong influence of Carlos Guevara Moreno and his group, the Concentracion de Fuerzas Populares (CFP), within the workers' organizations and especially among the petroleum workers of Ancon, where, it was admitted, Guevara now has strong support. It was agreed that all syndicate members known to be followers of Guevara should be reported, ousted from any directive position within the labor movement, and when possible, expelled from the syndicates. It was further agreed that any syndicate controlled by Guevara should be expelled from the FPTG.
3. Alfredo Vera Vera, a guest speaker and special representative of the Partido Comunista del Ecuador (PCE), gave a long speech in which he stated that Guevara could be expected to attempt to establish a dictatorship and that, in order to salvage the remnants of democracy in Ecuador, it was necessary to prepare plans for a series of strikes and other activities in opposition to Guevara. Vera Vera stated that, although Guevara was fully aware of the Communist-Socialist intention of sabotaging his administration, it would be impossible for him to prevent this sabotage without discharging many municipal workers; and if he did this, the resulting strikes, disquiet, and propaganda against Guevara and his administration would play right into the hands of his enemies.
4. On 9 December the following points were brought up by Segundo Ramos Navarrete, Secretary General of the FPTG and a member of the PCE Central Committee, and it was resolved by the delegates to strive for:
  - a. Raises of salaries and wages;
  - b. Legal protection assuring laborers of stability in their employment;

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- c. The free distribution of land to those working it;
- d. The establishment of a new system by which each member of each syndicate affiliated to the FPTG must contribute fifty centavos per month to the FPTG for salaries for the FPTG officials who must dedicate their full time to their labor activities;
- e. The establishment of financial operating reserves on the part of each syndicate so that, in case of strikes and other periods of need, syndicates would not have to appeal to the FPTG or to the CTE for funds;
- f. The re-entry into publication of the FPTG newspaper, Voz Popular, on a regular monthly basis;
- g. The repairing of the FPTG headquarters and the payment of the existing mortgage of approximately 60,000 sucres (US \$2480).
5. Manuel Medina Castro, a well-known member of the PCE, was invited to speak about the renewal of the Grace contract. Although Alejandro Teodoro Ponce Luque is the ostensible leader of the struggle against the renewal of this contract, he is considered as completely dominated by Medina, and the latter is known to be the true leader of this campaign. Medina stated that the work, which the American trusts and government wish to have done but which is not needed for navigation of the Guayas River, would eventually have to be paid for by the laborers and especially by the farm workers. He claimed that Grace & Co. refused to permit its ships to enter Guayaquil only because the company was currently making more money by unloading at Puna and charging extra for transporting freight up the river on barges.
6. Efraim Alvarez Fiallo, one of the delegates of the Federacion de Estudiantes Universitarios del Ecuador (FEUE) to the Berlin Youth Congress, then spoke of the necessity of struggling to maintain peace, which, he stated, is being threatened by the imperialistic maneuvers of the United States. He pointed out that machetes, now costing from 20 to 40 sucres each, would cost from 150 to 200 sucres if war broke out. In addition, he pointed out that the Yankees would need balsa wood and many other Ecuadorian products in carrying out their war plans and that the Ecuadorian laborers would aid in preserving peace by preventing the shipment of such materials to the U.S. or any of the imperialistic countries. Alvarez then distributed copies of the Berlin Pro-Peace manifesto and requested those present to sign the manifesto as evidence that they would aid in the struggle to preserve peace.
7. Immediately prior to the termination of the second and last meeting on 9 December, elections of FPTG officials for 1952 were held. The new officers are as follows:

Secretary General	Segundo Ramos Navarrete
Secretary of Organization	Pedro Gamacho Castillo, a left-wing Socialist who is easily influenced by the Communists
Secretary of Records & Communications	Galo Salazar, a left-wing Socialist
Secretary of Agricultural Affairs	Cesarito Valverde Flores, Communist
Treasurer	Carlos Alberto Guzman Valdivieso, Communist
Secretary of Culture & Sports	Froilan Ortega, of no known political group

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Secretary of Legal Defense

Alberto Santo Morla, independent

Secretary of Foreign Relations

Jorge Reynolds, left-wing Socialist  
who associates with Pedro Saad and  
other Communist leaders

Secretary of Press & Propaganda

Marcos Tulio Oramas, Communist

Syndicate Adviser

Elias Munoz Vicuna, Communist.